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November 1, 2005 2005 NOV 4 AM 10 32

MILT BRANUM, Jr. President

> Mr. John F. Carter Regional Director Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300 San Francisco, CA 95105

> > RE: Comments Regarding FDIC Application #20051977; Wal-Mart Application for Insurance and Industrial Bank Charter

Dear Mr. Carter:

I am writing to oppose the application of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc. for Federal deposit insurance coverage for an ILC charter in Utah. I am a community banker and believe strongly that allowing Wal-Mart to own a bank charter and potentially open branches in its network of stores would do irreparable harm to my community and my institution, and pose a severe systemic risk to our nation's economy.

I have been a community banker in a number of communities and witnessed the devastation of small businesses in those communities when Wal-Mart opens. I have no reason to believe that they would operate differently in the banking arena.

I know they have stated that their intent is to operate a limited ILC charter in Utah. Since I am old enough to remember the early days when Wal-Mart was just getting started, I feel very strongly that this would not last very long. They will be full-fledged banks in a very short time.

This would not only be very dangerous to the banking community but would be dangerous to the small businesses in our community who depend on their local bank for credit needs.

For the sake of the community banks of our nation and the customers and communities we serve, please do not allow Wal-Mart to get into the banking business. <u>Make a statement for fair competition and consumer choice by denying Wal-Mart's application for deposit insurance.</u>

Sincerely,

BANK OF SULLIVAN

Milt Branum, Jr.
President